



Ceiriog Valley Federation

The Governors' Gazette

The Annual Report to Parents

Autumn Term 2025 (for Academic Year 2024 -2025)

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

As Chair of the Federation's Governing Body, I would like to thank all the staff for their commitment and dedication in what has been another incredibly busy and challenging year. In March we received the sad news of the passing of Miss Beth Evans who had recently retired due to ill health. Beth played a huge role in the success of the Federation, and the volume of tributes from past and present pupils and parents is testament to what an amazing Deputy Head, teacher and role model she was. She will continue to be greatly missed by us all.

We wished Ms Kate Jones well as she embarks on a year of adventures and travel. Ms Llio Davies is the acting Head of Site and at Ysgol Llanarmon for this academic year. We also welcome Ms Abigail Roberts as a new teaching assistant in Ysgol Cynnddelw.

The Ceiriog Valley Federation continues to go from strength to strength, providing the excellent teaching and learning reported on in the inspection reports of July 2022. Pupils engage in a broad and rich range of learning experiences and the Federation actively shares best practice with other schools across its networks. This year both Llanarmon and Cynnddelw achieved the highest level gold award of 'Siarter Iaith, recognising the excellent standard of Welsh first and second language education. The schools work hard on the wellbeing of all pupils, making sure that both schools continue to be kind and caring environments where our children feel safe and thrive in their personal development and learning.

I would like to congratulate Mrs Lora Sockett and all the staff for balancing the schools' budgets last year in the face of a tough financial settlement. Across Wrexham (and indeed across Wales) schools have again faced challenges relating to increased staffing costs and inflation. However, as a result of the restructuring work undertaken in 2024 and unrelenting vigilance over costs, we hope to retain a positive budgetary outcome again for 2025-2026. Our Parent Teacher Association activities help provide all the extra things that make the children's experiences at our schools even more special, so we ask again this year for your enthusiasm and help with PTA activities. Our fundraising events are an excellent way to meet others and make more links with the teachers and parents. They're also always great fun.

Finally, I'd like thank you all for your continued support for our two schools and I wish everyone another successful year of learning.

Yours Sincerely

Carys Davies

Ceiriog Valley Federation

Our Vision

Our mission statement and school aims have been created by our children, staff, governors and parents. We are friendly, welcoming community schools that create independent and creative learners who are kind and respectful. We endeavour to help the children learn in an environment that prepares them for the future, enabling them to be independent, confident and ambitious learners. We are committed to ensuring that all children reach their full potential and thrive in the evolving world that awaits them

Our aims:

- To create ambitious, capable learners who set themselves high standards and seek and enjoy challenge
- To encourage pupils to value health and be confident and have the skills and knowledge to manage everyday life as independently as they can
- Produce enterprising, creative contributors who think creatively to reframe and solve problems
- To develop ethically informed citizens who show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet and are ready to be citizens of Wales who celebrate their own language and culture and also the wider world.
- To respect their needs and the rights of others, working collaboratively as a federation

The Federation of Schools in the Ceiriog Valley is made up of the two separate county primary schools sharing one head teacher and one governing body. The federation ensures that all schools remain separate by law retaining their own unique identity. This arrangement builds on the strengths of both schools without them losing their individual identities.

Please telephone school if you would like to request a meeting with Governors to discuss this Annual Report.

Inside ... What did we achieve? A look back: 2024 - 2025

Who's who on the Governing Body?		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>End of Term of office</u>
Mrs Lora Sockett	Head teacher	Ex-Officio
Mrs Carys Davies	Chair of Governors (LA appointed governor)	31/10/28
Mr Emyr Owens	Vice chair of Governors (LA appointed governor)	30/4/28
Mr Endaf Owens	Parent governors	31/10/27
Mr David Sopwith		30/4/28
Mr Dafydd Roberts		30/3/29
Mrs Eleri Harper		24/5/28
Miss Hannah Parkinson	Teacher governors	March 2024
Miss Kate Jones		26/5/25
Miss Iona Richards	Staff governor	28/2/25
Mrs Bethan Mair Jones	LA governors	30/4/25
Mrs Gaynor Roberts		28/2/26
Mrs Sally Greenwood	Community governors	24/11/25
Mrs Fiona Grant		12/7/27
Mr Aled Jones		
Miss Heidi Williams	Clerk	N/A

The instrument of government has been amended to reflect Ysgol Cynddelw and Ysgol Llanarmon D C

Instrument of government for the Ceiriog Valley Federation 2024	
Parent governors	4 (Minimum 1 from each school)
Local Authority	4
Teacher	2
Staff	1
Headteacher	1
Community Governors	2 (+ 1 additional community governor appointed from community council)
Total	15

The Governing Body has a responsibility for seeing that the school is run effectively, acting within the framework set by legislation and that the policies of the Local Authority (LA) and the Welsh Government (WG) are adhered to. The governing body of the Ceiriog Valley federation meets every half term to discuss the schools and their priorities. Their main aim is to ensure that all pupils in the Ceiriog Valley are given opportunities and challenged to reach their potential. During the meetings, staff present information about school development plan and governors ask challenging questions as to the purpose of activities and their effect. It is a voluntary role and we thank all the governors for their commitment.

What is a Governor?

A governor is someone who:-

- *is a volunteer;*
- *cares about learning, teaching and children;*
- *represents people in the local community and the staff of the school;*
- *is part of a team which accepts responsibility for everything a school does;*
- *has time to commit to meetings and other occasions when needed;*
- *is willing to learn;*
- *is able to act as a friend who supports and challenges the schools by casting a critical eye upon how the school works and the standard it achieves; acts as a link between parents, the local community and the school.*



School Improvement

What has been happening 2024-2025?



The schools have been very busy monitoring standards and sharing good practice. We have all been working hard to develop the curriculum and have been commended by the regional support team GwE. The Federation schools have been continuing to support each and offering the best possible for the pupils in the Ceiriog Valley. Below are a few examples of the activities that have been going on in line with our priorities linked with our ESTYN inspection recommendations.

Cynllun Datblygu Ysgol/School Development Plan		<p>-To ensure correct modelling and use of language.</p> <p>- To encourage pupils to have the confidence to converse in Welsh and English, ' Say it, write it'.</p> <p>-To promote positive ethos towards reading and providing appropriate challenge for pupils</p> <p>-Planning will include opportunities for pupils to complete extended writing tasks.</p> <p>-1 Welsh and 1 English piece of extended writing every half term</p> <p>-End of inquiry summary from each of the pupils – open afternoons showing work</p> <p>-New ideas implemented in class</p> <p>-Confidence increased with pupils and staff when writing</p>
Priority 1: To provide further opportunities for pupils to apply their extended writing skills in interesting contexts		
<p>Identified from-</p> <p>Effects of Covid-19 staff, parent, pupil feedback</p> <p>Assessments recommendations from ESTYN</p> <p>Pupils interests</p>		
<p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will receive training and support in the delivery of strategies in the classroom • Staff will have applied the knowledge to their own situation/class • Through professional dialogue and looking at examples, staff's teaching/classroom provision will improve and more opportunities for extended writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ RWI implementation in all classes ✓ Modelling correct use of language in English and Welsh ✓ Professional dialogue and discussions in staff meetings ✓ Attending cluster training – reading ✓ Professional dialogue – planning meetings ✓ Cluster meetings – looking at and comparing learners work ✓ Attending cluster meetings – conversing with other heads, professional dialogue & sharing good practice. ✓ Bringing examples of pupils work to staff meetings showing good progression ✓ Looking at the inquiry – mapping out possibilities for extended writing at the very beginning of term ✓ Visiting other schools, attending cluster progression step meetings termly ✓ Sharing good practice 		

Cynllun Datblygu Ysgol/School Development Plan		<p>-Planning in advance, using numeracy in all lessons as much as possible and cross curricular</p> <p>-Planning meetings with cluster schools and GwE</p> <p>Professional dialogue – planning meetings</p> <p>-Cluster meetings – looking at</p> <p>Attending cluster meetings – conversing with other heads, professional dialogue & sharing good practice.</p> <p>-Bringing examples of pupils work to staff meetings showing good progression</p> <p>-Looking at the inquiry – mapping out possibilities for numeracy and science at the very beginning of term</p> <p>Visiting other schools, attending cluster progression step meetings termly</p> <p>-Sharing good practice</p> <p>-Learning walks completed by staff members from other schools (Morgan Llwyd Cluster) grouped with Ysgol Min Y Ddol, Ysgol Plas Coch and Ysgol Bryn Tabor</p>
Priority 2: To Provide further opportunities for pupils to apply their numeracy skills in different contexts		
<p>Identified from-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessments • Book Looks • Staff, parent and pupil feedback • Recommendations from ESTYN 		
<p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will receive training and support in the delivery of strategies in the classroom • Staff will have applied the knowledge to their own situation/class • Through professional dialogue and looking at examples, staff's teaching/classroom provision will improve and more opportunities for numeracy across the curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ✓ To encourage pupils to have the confidence to use and apply their numeracy skills in a variety of contexts ✓ Seeing numeracy throughout in tasks set in school ✓ Giving pupils the opportunity to utilise numeracy skills in all contexts. ✓ Planning will include opportunities for pupils to use numeracy skills cross curricular ✓ Open afternoons to show progress and numeracy links ✓ New ideas implemented in class ✓ Confidence increased with pupils and staff when using numeracy 		

Staffing Structure September 2024

Ysgol Cynddelw	Ysgol Llanarmon
Head teacher – Mrs Lora Sockett	
Deputy Head teacher – Miss Hannah PArkinson (based at Ysgol Cynddelw)	
Business manager/Secretary - Mrs Michelle Lewis / Mrs Heidi Williams	
Teachers- Miss Hannah Parkinson Mr Peter Williams Mrs Anwen Evans Miss Elizabeth Richards	Head of Site Miss Kate Jones Teachers- Miss Kate Jones Miss Llio Davies
PPA Teachers- Mrs Nia Massey	PPA Teachers Mrs Eleri Owens
Teaching Assistants Mrs Clare Wall Mrs Sophie Edwards Miss Iona Richards Miss Megan Jones Mr Tom Owen Miss Laura Singleton	Teaching Assistants Mrs Rhonwen Tomlinson Mrs Eleri Owen Mrs Bronwen Morris
Caretaker -Mr Jonathan Phillips Cleaner -Mr David Jones	Caretaker -Mrs Michelle Morris
Cook - Mr Sebastian Gibourg	Cook -Mrs Levi Jones
Kitchen Assistants -Miss Hayley Stove	
Lunchtime Supervisors Mrs Clare Wall Mr Tom Owen Mrs Sophie Edwards Miss Iona Richards Miss Megan Jones	Lunchtime Supervisors Mrs Rhonwen Tomlinson
Breakfast Club open from 7.50am Mrs Sophie Edwards Miss Iona Richards Mrs Claire Wall	Breakfast Club open from 7.50am Mrs Levi Jones
After School Club Miss Claire Morgan (Leader) Miss Laura Singleton Mrs Rosemary Whitworth Miss Francesca Watkins Miss Anita Ward	Pupils who are 3 years old can access After School Club at Ysgol Cynddelw
Cylch Meithrin Glyn Ceiriog Miss Claire Morgan (Leader) Miss Laura Singleton Mrs Rosemary Whitworth	From September 2020- 2 and 3 year olds pupils from Ysgol Llanarmon can attend Cylch. Francesca picks them up from Ysgol Llanarmon.

Miss Francesca Watkins
Miss Anita Ward

Our Federation Website - <https://cvf.cymru/>



Ysgol Cynddelw - <https://cvf.cymru/ysgol-cynddelw/>



Ysgol Llanarmon - <https://cvf.cymru/ysgol-llanarmon-dc/>



Policy/Document Update



All of our Policy Documents for the Curriculum are in place. All of our Non-Curricular policies are in place. We update our School Prospectus and School Development Plan regularly. All of our Schemes of Work; are written on a termly basis and we have detailed annual plans to ensure we carry out a skilled based curriculum, looking at what matters statements for all AOLEs and progression steps.

<https://cvf.cymru/about-us/curriculum/>

Please contact school if you would like a copy of any of our Policy Documents or if you require any additional information.

Teaching & Learning 2024-25

We have an excellent working relationship with Federation schools. We are continuing to work on the curriculum for Wales. Pupils are taught in mixed age classes and we use a variety of teaching methods. We share good practice through the Federation and with other schools in the cluster, Wrexham and North Wales. We have a whole federation approach to assessment for learning. We continue to share good practice with each other and other schools in order to develop the very best practice and provide the best for pupils in the Ceiriog Valley. We offer a broad range of experiences, knowledge and skills that are explored through a range of contexts, inquiries and activities selected in the process of curriculum design. We have AoLE partners who are working together to ensure progression and coverage across the school. A child's learning should focus on things that matter to them, we achieve this by ensuring that the pupils have a voice to shape their own learning in their line of inquiry.

Most of the schools buildings are in fairly good repair. Each school has good toilet facilities which are cleaned on a regular basis. Toilets are checked by during the school day and regular handwashing continues to be a priority.



Attendance 2024 – 2025 September 24 until July 25

School	Ysgol Cynddelw	Ysgol Llanarmon
Target	96%	96%
Actual Attendance	94.3%	92.6%
Authorised	4.91%	6.16%
Unauthorised	0.78%	1.23%

Absences have an adverse effect on our overall percentages. We have a whole school computerised system to monitor pupils' attendance and punctuality.. We do recommend that parents do not take holiday during term time because it can have a detrimental effect on a child's education when important lessons are missed. The Welsh Assembly Government points out that holidays in term time are not a right and should be agreed by the Head teacher:

"Absences authorised under this discretion should be kept to a minimum. Ten school days should not be regarded as the norm. If a school does not agree absence and the pupil goes on holiday, the absence is unauthorised." Welsh Assembly Government

Please ensure that you contact the school to give a reason for your child being absent.

Target for Attendance 2024/2025= 96%

Both schools have an active School Council, Eco Committee and Criw Cymraeg. We also have a Federation Wellbeing Council. The groups meet on a regular basis to discuss important school issues.



Sports

The pupils in the federation have had the opportunity to take part in a number of sporting activities in the schools and in various tournaments. They have had Music sessions with WCBC, PE sessions with the Urdd, Cross country, Tag Rugby, netball, Chess as well as their Forest school sessions, Muddy Wednesdays and mindful moments during the school day. My HappyMind has been a fantastic resource to help the pupils with their wellbeing.



Additional Learning Needs

At Ysgol Cynddelw and Ysgol Llanarmon DC we are committed to working together to support all pupils to help meet their needs and reach their full potential. As part of a graduated response, we implement support at a universal and targeted universal level and through additional learning needs provision.

As a federation of schools we ensure the needs of all pupils are met through high quality teaching and learning provision. Our Universal Provision includes:

- Whole class quality first teaching
- Effective differentiation
- Collaborative group and partner work
- Individual and small group interventions (within the class or in the shared area with an adult)
- Access to visual aids and support e.g. working walls, maths resources, writing frames
- Appropriate and reasonable adjustments to enable access to the school environment, curriculum and facilities

During their time at Ysgol Cynddelw and Ysgol Llanarmon DC, pupils will make expected progress in their learning to begin with offering universal provision. If a pupil is not progressing, we will gather observations, use assessment data and seek to work in collaboration with outside agencies to identify any additional learning needs. A wide range of evidence will be gathered over time, including:

Assessment tools, frameworks and questionnaires

Standardised assessments

Observational data

Formative assessments of day to day learning

Monitoring progress over time

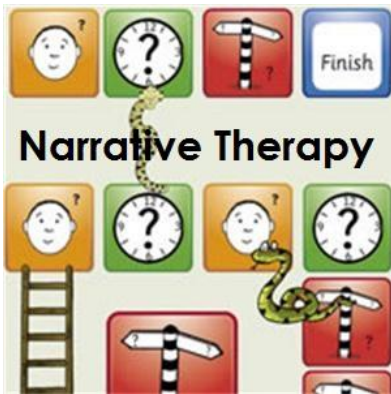
At this point, a pupil would have a Targeted Universal Plan (affectionately known as a TUP) which would indicate their individual targets. Progress would be reviewed termly. Additional action may be taken, and advice and support may be sought from outside agencies such as the Educational Psychology Service, Speech and Language Therapy Service, Literacy Service, who might suggest specific strategies to support a pupil.

Where a pupil has not progressed as well as expected with the additional support provided as outlined above, the next stage of the graduated response would be that the school considers whether the pupil has Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and in turn requires Additional Learning Provision (ALP). Should it be determined that a pupil has Additional Learning Needs, an Individual Development Plan (IDP) would be developed in a person-centred manner through a Person

Centred Review meeting. The IDP would then be reviewed at least annually to ensure they remain relevant and are used as working documents.

- Interventions we provide and support are in both Welsh and English Language.
- ELSA – Emotional literacy support
- Drawing and talking
- Lego therapy
- Speech and Language – Narrative therapy
- Literacy and Numeracy support.
- All staff have had training from Autism Wales.
- Trauma Informed

2024-2025	Pupils on TUP	Pupils with ALP	Pupils with IDP
Ysgol Cynddelw	7	6	6
Ysgol Llanarmon DC	3	2	2



<https://cvf.cymru/additional-learning-needs-aln/>

The admission of pupils

We offer an inclusive school community and we aim to reduce/eliminate all barriers of access to the curriculum and work towards full participation for all pupils and prospective pupils with a disability.

We will comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and will:

- Not discriminate against disabled pupils in admissions, exclusions or in the provision of education.
- Not treat disabled pupils less favourably.
- Take reasonable steps to avoid putting pupils with disabilities at a disadvantage.

Please contact school if you would like a copy of our Disability Equality Scheme.

Links with the Community

We recognise the importance of working closely with the local community. Of course this year due to restrictions we have been limited to the number of activities that we have been able to do. Our main priority is always of course the pupils safety, we have continued to keep our community links in various ways.

- ❖ We invite the community to attend bingo and Christmas concerts. All celebrations and work are shared using a variety of platforms e.g seesaw, our federation website, facebook and local newspapers.
- ❖ We advertise any events that the community would like us to with parents and guardians (Brownies, youth club)
- ❖ We visit Cheshire home to sing (Eisteddfod time, Christmas carols)
- ❖ Glyn Ceiriog Gardening Show, Llanarmon Sheep dog trials (competitions)
- ❖ We work in partnership with Ysgol Dinas Bran and Ysgol Morgan Llwyd.
- ❖ We have excellent links with the local PCSOs.
- ❖ We continue to use our Facebook Page.
- ❖ We have taken part in Eisteddfod yr Urdd and Eisteddfod Glyn Ceiriog.
- ❖ Each school is very well supported by their community
- ❖ We work alongside the Youth club and hall committee in Llanarmon to raise funds
- ❖ Christmas / Summer fayres
- ❖ Assemblies, workshops with local businesses (Dolywern meat, Kirsty Bees, Tai Kwando, Script writing, Welsh authors)

Additional Information:

We encourage pupils to use the Welsh language in class and around school.

We work closely with feeder Secondary Schools to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils and to facilitate continuity in the Welsh language. Ysgol Llanarmon is a naturally Welsh medium school offering Welsh medium education. Ysgol Cynddelw is dual stream school, both schools provide support for latecomers into Welsh medium education.

<https://cynefinwrecsam.my.canva.site/>

Click on the title and watch the video for more information regarding Welsh medium education in Wrexham

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5b6rvvpaw>





Ysgol Cynddelw runs a Cylch Meithrin + (for Nursery children) and After School Club which continues to be popular.

Breakfast Club at each school continues to thrive. Open from 7.50am.

Destination of school leavers July 2025

<u>Ysgol Cynddelw</u>	<u>Ysgol Llanarmon D C</u>
12 pupils	2 pupils
10=Ysgol Dinas Bran	1= Ysgol Dinas Bran
2= Ysgol Morgan Llwyd	1=Ysgol Morgan Llwyd

Healthy Eating and Drinking

Both schools continue to promote the Welsh government healthy schools scheme.

We continue to promoting healthy eating and drinking through the appetite for life guidance and County advice. We have been continuing to promote healthy eating and drinking throughout the year also inviting local businesses to discuss their sources and the importance of a healthy balanced diet.



Ysgol Cynddelw Infants	Ysgol Cynddelw Juniors	Ysgol Llanarmon D C
8.55—10.15am	8.55am-10.30am	8.55am-10.30am
Snack/Break	Break	Break
10.45-11.45am	10.45 Midday	10.45-Midday
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12.45-3.15pm	1pm –3.15pm	1pm –3.15pm

We are always encouraging and developing the partnership we have with parents; we hope you have enjoyed reading our Annual Report. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Our Federation Prospectus

The Ceiriog Valley Federation Prospectus has been updated. If you require a copy, please contact the Headteacher. We have information packs for Welsh medium Education and parent packs available. We also provide termly newsletters for each class. Please contact school if you would like a copy of any of the above items.

Ysgol Cynddelw 01691 718426 Ysgol Llanarmon DC 01691600278

MDP248 - LLANARMON DC CP

SUMMARY FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2024/2025
Financial Year 1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025

BUDGET HEADING	EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME) ACTUAL	EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME) PLANNED BUDGET	BALANCE
EMPLOYEES	232,956	230,940	-2,016
PREMISES	10,237	16,594	6,357
TRANSPORT	642	2,188	1,546
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	13,219	12,068	-1,151
EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	13,826	14,243	417
CONTINGENCY FUND	0	17,706	17,706
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	270,881	293,739	22,858
OTHER INCOME	-31,625	-23,916	7,709
OPENING BALANCE (1st April 2024)	-44,579	-44,579	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	194,677	225,244	30,567

MDP197 - YSGOL CYNDELW

SUMMARY FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2024/2025
Financial Year 1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025

BUDGET HEADING	EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME) ACTUAL	EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME) PLANNED BUDGET	BALANCE
EMPLOYEES	571,137	590,970	19,833
PREMISES	40,596	44,121	3,525
TRANSPORT	4,265	3,714	-551
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	26,291	21,157	-5,134
EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	35,699	36,125	426
CONTINGENCY FUND	0	-55,238	-55,238
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	677,988	640,849	-37,139
OTHER INCOME	-148,768	-111,433	37,335
OPENING BALANCE (1st April 2024)	-22,529	-22,529	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	506,692	506,887	196

<u>Ysgol Cynddelw School Fund Account</u>		
April 24 – March 25		
	CREDIT	DEBIT
Balance @ 1/4/24	3421.14	
Trips/Visits	4261.85	4085.25
Fundraising/Commission/Donations	841.13	
Swimming	621.63	
Donations/Charity	184.00	
Miscellaneous	601.91	237.72
	9931.66	4322.97
Balance @ 31/3/25	5608.69	

<u>Ysgol Llanarmon DC School Fund Account</u>		
April 24 – March 25		
	CREDIT	DEBIT
Balance @ 1/4/24	2749.44	
Trips/Visits		
Fundraising/Commission/Donations	1126.39	
Clubs/Subscriptions		25.00
Swimming	18.00	55.00
Donations/Charity	90.01	
Miscellaneous		231.99
	3983.84	311.99
Balance @ 31/3/25	3671.85	